

LAWNMOWER SAFETY

Each year, nearly 75,000 people are injured while using a lawnmower!

Safety Tips

- ✓ Read your owner's manual
- ✓ Pick up objects before mowing
- ✓ Be alert and watch for bystanders
- ✓ Keep children & pets out of the area
- ✓ Stop mower when anyone is present
- ✓ Keep deflector shield down
- ✓ Maintain all safety features
- ✓ Use safety glasses, ear plugs & dust mask
- ✓ Wear closed-toe leather shoes
- ✓ Never mow wet grass
- ✓ Avoid mowing in gravel or rocky areas
- ✓ Allow mower to cool prior to refueling
- ✓ Shut-off engine before unclogging chute
- ✓ Disconnect spark plug(s) for service

Walk-Behind Mowers



- ▶ Mow across slopes to prevent slipping under the mowing deck if you trip or fall
- ▶ Always push the mower rather than pulling it
- ▶ Keep hands and feet clear of the mower deck and discharge chute at all times
- ▶ Do not make height adjustments while the mower is running
- ▶ Keep the blade sharp and check mower blade bolt torque on a regular basis

Riding Mowers

- ▶ Be sure the mower and transmission are disengaged before starting the engine
- ▶ Drive the mower up and down gentle slopes, and back up moderate slopes – always avoid steep slopes
- ▶ Turn off the engine and wait for moving parts to stop before dismounting
- ▶ Remove and secure the key when storing the mower
- ▶ Avoid turning sharply on slopes and slow down in difficult areas
- ▶ Be aware of holes, rocks, roots and other obstacles
- ▶ Check blade bolts regularly and keep the blades sharp
- ▶ Never allow “extra riders” – mowers are designed for one person (the operator)



Fuel Safety

- ▶ Avoid static electricity – remove container from vehicle and place it on the ground prior to filling
- ▶ Never smoke when fueling – refuel only when outdoors and when motor is cool
- ▶ Store fuel containers away from buildings and in well-ventilated areas – use only approved containers

For more information, contact **Virginia Farm Bureau Safety** at (804) 290-1376 or vfbsafety@vafb.com. Visit our website at www.vafb.com and click on “Safety”.



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